

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 14, 2006, the Office has rejected claims 1-3, 6-22, 26-39, 42-45, 49-55, 58, 61-64, 68-80, 83-87 and 90-92 variously pursuant to the references of record. Further claims 4, 5, 23-25, 40-41, 46-48, 56-57, 59-60, 65-67, 81-82, 88 and 89 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but the Office has indicated that they would be given favorable consideration if they were recast in independent form to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

With respect to the current amendments to the claims, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the substance of claim 4 which was earlier objected to by the Examiner of record. Claim 2, which is an original claim, depends from claim 1. Claims 3 and 4 are cancelled and claims 5, 7-10 have been amended in various ways in order to make them consistent with the amendments made to claim 1. Independent claim 11 has been amended in a fashion consistent with the holding of the recent Office Action and which is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Further, claims 12-25, 27, 29 and 31 have been variously amended in a manner consistent with the recent holding of the Office. Therefore, they are also believed to be allowable. Claim 34 has been amended consistent with the recent Office Action and claim 35-52 have been amended and/or cancelled consistent with those amendments made in the independent claim. Similarly, independent claims 53 and those claims depending therefrom, and claim 74 and those claims depending therefrom have also been amended in a fashion similar to that which has been deemed to receive favorable consideration by the Office.

In view of the amendments made to the claims, it would appear that this application is now in condition for allowance, and prompt efforts by the Office in this regard is courteously solicited.

Applicant, by and through their counsel, would request that the Office telephone the attorney listed below in the event that a further telephone conference could expedite the prompt handling of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

/Alan D. Kirsch/

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